GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2788
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2007
OPPOSITION TO ENTRY OF NEW MOBILE COMPANIES
Mehta Shri Bhubneshwar Prasad

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the mobile phone companies operating at present are opposing the entry of new companies in the name of spectrum which is resulting in loss to the consumers due to lack of competition;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether 400 million mobile phone consumers are using 60 MHz spectrum in China while 150 million consumers in our country are not satisfied with the 55 MHz spectrum;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the policy framed by the Government to check misuse of spectrum;

(f) whether any company has been found guilty in this regard; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a)to(d) Yes, Sir.The TRAI has considered the related issues and gave its Recommendations dated 28th August, 2007 on review of license terms and conditions and capping of number of access providers.These are to be examined by the Government taking into account relevant aspects.

(e)to(g) The initial and subsequent additional spectrum is allotted to mobile phone companies in accordance with the relevant provisions of their respective Service License Agreements and criteria in this regard, subject to availability of spectrum.Any unauthorized usage/misuse of spectrum is a violation under the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 and action could be initiated against such user as per the relevant provisions of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.